AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Claim 1. (Currently Amended) Nitrooxyderivatives or salts thereof of formula (I)

$$R-NR_{1c}-(K)_{k0}-(B)_{b0}-(C)_{c0}-NO_2$$
 (I)

wherein

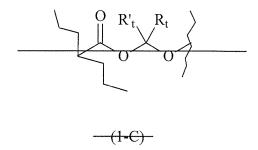
c0 is 1;

b0 is 0;

k0 is 0:

R_{1c} is H;

K is (CO) or the bivalent radical (1-C) having the following formula:



wherein the carbonyl group is bound to T_4 ; R_t and R'_t , same or different, are H, C_4 - C_{40} -alkyl, phenyl or benzyl, COOR_y, in which R_y = H, C_4 - C_{40} -alkyl, phenyl, benzyl;

 $B = T_B - X_2 - T_{BI}$ wherein

 $T_B = (CO)$ or X, in which X = O, S, NH;

 $T_{BI} = (CO)$ or (X), wherein X is as defined above;

when c0 = 0, then $T_{BI} = -O$;

Application Serial No. 10/537,439 Attorney-Docket No. 026220-00066 X_2 is a bivalent bridging group, such as the corresponding precursor of B, having the formula Z-T_B- X_2 -T_{BI}-Z' in which Z and Z' are independently H or OH, is selected from the following compounds:

Hydroxyacids: gallic acid (DI), ferulic acid (DII), gentisic acid (DIII), caffeic acid (DV), hydro caffeic acid (DVI), p-coumaric acid (DVII), vanillic acid (DVIII), syringic acid (DXI):

Aromatic polyalcohols: hydroquinone (EVIII), methoxyhydroquinone (EXI), hydroxyhydroquinone (EXII), conyferyl alcohol (EXXXII), 4-hydroxyphenetyl alcohol (EXXXIII), p-coumaric alcohol (EXXXIV);

C = bivalent radical of formula - T_c -Y wherein

 $T_c = (CO)$; and

Y is an alkylenoxy group -R'O- in which R' is straight or branched C_1 - C_{20} alkyl, a cycloalkylene with from 5 to 7 carbon atoms, or

wherein n3 is an integer from 0 to 5 and n3' is an integer from 1 to 3;

R is a radical of an analgesic drug of formula (II):

- 5 - RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.114

EXAMINING GROUP 1626

Application Serial No. 10/537,439

Attorney-Docket No. 026220-00066

$$\begin{array}{c}
R_0 \\
R_2 - W - (CH_2)_m \\
R_1
\end{array}$$
(II)

wherein:

W is a carbon atom;

m is 1;

 $R_0 = -(CH_2)_n$ -COOR_y, wherein $R_y = H$, C_1 - C_{10} -alkyl, phenyl, or benzyl;

n is an integer of from 0 to 2;

 $R_1 = H$;

R₂ is selected from the following groups:

- phenyl, optionally substituted with a halogen atom or with a group selected from OCH₃, -CF₃, nitro;
- mono or dihydroxy-substituted benzyl;
- amidino group: H₂N(C=NH)-;
- a radical of formula (IIA), wherein optionally an ethylenic unsaturation may be present between the carbon atoms in position 1 and 2, or 3 and 4 or 4 and 5:

$$Q - {}^{5}(CH)_{p3} - {}^{4}(CH)_{p2} - {}^{3}(C)_{p1} - {}^{2}CH - {}^{1}CH$$

$$(R_{6A})_{p}$$

(IIA)

wherein:

p, p₁, p₂ are integers, same or different, and are 0 or 1;

- 6 - RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.114

EXAMINING GROUP 1626

Application Serial No. 10/537,439

Attorney-Docket No. 026220-00066

p₃ in an integer of from 0 to 10;

R₄ is hydrogen, straight or branched C₁-C₆-alkyl, free valence;

R₅ is:

- hydrogen,

- straight or branched C₁-C₆-alkyl,

C₃-C₆-cycloalkyl, or

- ORA, wherein RA is:

- straight or branched C₁-C₆-alkyl, optionally substituted with one or more

halogen atoms, or

phenyl optionally substituted with a halogen atom or with one of the

following groups: -OCH₃, -CF₃, nitro;

R₆, R_{6A}, R₇, R₈, the same or different, are H, methyl or free valence, with the

proviso that when an ethylenic unsaturation is present between C₁ and C₂ in

radical of formula (IIA), R₄ and R₅ are free valences able to form the double bond

between C₁ and C₂; if the unsaturation is between C₃ and C₄, R₆ and R₇ are free

valence able to form the double bond between C₃ and C₄; is the unsaturation is

between C₄ and C₅, R₇ and R₈ are free valence able to form the double bond

between C₄ and C₅;

Q is H, OH, OR_B, R_B being benzyl, straight or branched C₁-C₆-alkyl, optionally

substituted with one or more halogen atoms, preferably F, phenyl optionally

substituted with a halogen atom or with one of the following groups: -OCH₃, -

CF₃, nitro; or

- 7 -

RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 EXAMINING GROUP 1626

Application Serial No. 10/537,439

Attorney-Docket No. 026220-00066

Q is

----straight or branched C₁-C₆-alkyl

- C₃-C₆-cycloalkyl,
- guanidino (H₂NC(=NH)NH-), or
- thioguanidino (H₂NC(=S)NH-),

in formula (II) R_2 with R_1 and with W = C form together a C_4 - C_{10} saturated or unsaturated ring.

Claim 2. (Canceled).

Claim 3. (Previously presented) Compounds according to claim 1, wherein in formula (I):

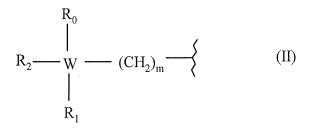
Y is:

an alkylenoxy group -R'O- in which R' is straight or branched $C_2\text{-}C_6$ alkyl; or

-
$$(CH_2)_{n3}$$
-O-

wherein n3 is an integer from 0 to 3 and n3' is an integer from 1 to 3;

R is the radical of an analgesic drug of formula (II):



wherein:

W is a carbon atom;

m is 1;

 $R_0 = -(CH_2)_n$ -COOH, wherein n is an integer of from 0 to 2;

 $R_1 = H;$

R₂ is selected from the following groups:

- 3,4-dihydroxybenzyl; or
- a radical of formula (IIA) as defined in claim 1, wherein:

p and p_l are 0 or 1;

p₂ and p₃ are 0;

R₄ and R₅ are hydrogen, straight or branched C₁-C₆-alkyl or free valence;

 R_6 and R_{6A} are H;

with the proviso that when an ethylenic unsaturation is present between C_1 and C_2 in radical of formula (IIA), R_4 and R_5 are free valences able to form the double bond between C_1 and C_2 ;

Q is H, CH₃ or

- guanidino (H₂NC(=NH)NH-), or
- thioguanidino (H₂NC(=S)NH-);

in formula (II) R_2 with R_1 and with W form together a C_6 saturated ring.

Claim 4. (Previously Presented) Compounds according to claim 1, wherein when in formula (II) W = C, m = 1 and $R_0 = -(CH_2)_n$ -COOR_y, wherein n = 1 and $R_y = H$; R_2 and R_1 with W as defined above form the cyclohexane ring; the drug precursor of R having the formula R-NH₂ is known as gabapentin;

when in formula (II) W = C, m = 1 and R_0 if defined as for gabapentin with n = 1; R_1 = H; R_2 is the radical of formula (IIA) in which p = p_1 = p_2 = p_3 = 0, R_4 = H, R_5 = Q = CH₃; the drug precursor of R having the formula R -NH₂ is known as pregabalin;

when in formula (II) W = C and has (S) configuration, m = 1 and R_0 if defined as for gabapentin with n = 1; $R_1 = H$; R_2 is the radical of formula (IIA) in which $p = p_1 = p_2 = p_3 = 0$, $R_4 = H$, $R_5 = Q = CH_3$; the drug precursor of R having the formula R-NH₂ is known as (S)3-isobutilGABA.

Claim 5. (Canceled).

Claim 6. (Previously Presented) Compounds according to claim 1 selected from: 1-[4-(nitrooxymethyl)benzoylaminomethyl]-cyclohexaneacetic acid (XVA),

1-[3-(nitrooxymethyl)benzoylaminomethyl]-cyclohexaneacetic acid (XVIA),

$$\bigcap_{ONO_2} \bigcap_{OH} O$$

$$(XVIA)$$

1-[2-(nitrooxymethyl)benzoylaminomethyl]-cyclohexaneacetic acid (XVIIA),

- 11 -

1-(4-nitrooxybutanoylaminomethyl)-cyclohexaneacetic acid (XVIIIA),

RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 EXAMINING GROUP 1626 Application Serial No. 10/537,439 Attorney-Docket No. 026220-00066

$$O_2NO$$
 N
 OH
 OH
 OH
 OH

3-(S)-[4- (nitrooxymethyl)benzoylaminomethyl]-5-methyl-hexanoic acid (XXVA),

(XXVA)

3-(S)-[3-(nitrooxymethyl)benzoylaminomethyl]-5-methyl-hexanoic acid (XXVIA),

(XXVIA)

3(S)-[2-(nitrooxymethyl)benzoylaminomethyl]-5-methyl-hexanoic acid (XXVIIA),

- 12 - RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 EXAMINING GROUP 1626 Application Serial No. 10/537,439 Attorney-Docket No. 026220-00066

(XXVIIA)

3(S)-[4-(nitrooxybutanoyl)aminomethyl]-5-methyl-hexanoic acid (XXVIIIA),

(XXVIIIA)

Claim 7. (Currently Amended) A composition comprising: a compound according to claim 1; and a NO-donor compound comprising a radical molecule of a drug selected from the group consisting of: aspirin, salicylic acid, ibuprofen, paracetamol, naproxen, diclofenac and flurbiprofen and at least a group that is an –ONO₂ group or an –ONO group.

Claim 8. (Canceled).

- 13 - RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.114

EXAMINING GROUP 1626

Application Serial No. 10/537,439

Attorney-Docket No. 026220-00066

Claim 9. (Previously Presented) Pharmaceutical compositions comprising compounds according to claim 1 as active ingredients.

Claim 10. (Canceled).

Claim 11. (Previously Presented) A method of treatment of chronic pain comprising administering an effective amount of the compounds according to claim 1.

Claim 12. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 11, wherein the chronic pain is neurophatic pain.